

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM
FY 2011**

Introduction

Federal funding of the National Gallery of Art provides crucial support for its renowned Special Exhibitions Program. This program, which is the most critical part of the Gallery's educational mission, is an example of the public and private sectors working together for the benefit of the American public by bringing major works of art from public and private collections around the world for the many millions of visitors to the Gallery and to its web site.

With this Federal support, the Gallery plays a significant leadership role nationally and internationally through its involvement in the organization and presentation of special exhibitions seen by millions around the world. More than half of the special exhibitions organized by the Gallery travel to cities outside Washington.

The Gallery's special exhibitions program enhances the core strengths of its collection and presents works of exceptional quality and merit from other cultures and periods, bringing great art treasures to Washington and the nation.

The Gallery's special exhibitions program also extends the educational mission of the Gallery by contributing to a variety of complementary educational events, including adult tours, student tours, family workshops, and teacher workshops. The Gallery also produces a variety of educational materials that contribute to scholarship in the field, including special exhibition brochures and catalogues, features, virtual tours, podcasts, and video podcasts on the Gallery's web site, and films, videos and DVD's that are distributed free of charge to thousands of schools and community organizations.

The Public-Private Partnership

Federal funds have provided vital support to the Gallery's Special Exhibitions Program for over 37 years. Funding, provided by both the public and private sectors, has enabled the Gallery to conduct long-term planning for special exhibitions with private collectors, museums and governments throughout the world. Due to the complexity of coordinating loans of works of art, insurance, transportation, exhibition space design and catalogue research and production, the Gallery's exhibition planning process typically begins four to five years in advance of the show's opening. Because of this lead-time, a large portion of the planning and research costs must be incurred before the exhibition can be formally presented for private sector support. Federal no-year funding therefore is critical to cover these costs.

Special Exhibitions Program

Organization of Special Exhibitions

Organizing special exhibitions requires significant expertise and resources. The curatorial, special exhibitions, legal, registrar and design and installation staffs of the Gallery organize about a dozen special exhibitions annually. Each one requires varying degrees of knowledge and experience in such areas as contract negotiations, insurance, transportation of art, design of the exhibition space, designing and editing exhibition catalogues, and developing educational materials. In addition, significant costs may be incurred for travel, art transportation, insurance premiums, exhibition space design and construction, curatorial services, and catalogue publishing.

As a result of its successful, longstanding reputation for mounting special exhibitions, the Gallery serves as a model for other museums coast to coast. Many American museums now look to the Gallery to take the lead in organizing exhibitions that will travel to their city or town. Federal funding, which provides the crucial support for the necessary planning and development of an exhibition, has thereby enabled the Gallery to share the benefit of its organizational expertise with other museums in all regions of the country. These efforts extend a special exhibition's impact beyond those who view it in Washington to others throughout the country who are unable to attend the exhibition.

Conclusion

The National Gallery of Art's Special Exhibition Program provides the public with a unique opportunity to personally experience great works of art from around the world. Representing the nation, the Gallery serves as America's cultural ambassador and as an international showcase for cultural diplomacy by bringing to the United States art from the international community as well as sharing with it art from the Gallery's own collections.

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS BUDGET REQUEST
FY 2010 and FY 2011**

Description	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2011 Increase/ (Decrease) FY 2010
Personnel Compensation	\$ 953	\$ 1,002	\$ 49
Personnel Benefits	305	315	10
Travel	50	50	-
Transportation	300	300	-
Services	1,578	33	(1,545)
Supplies & Materials	200	-	(200)
Total - Special Exhibitions	\$ 3,386	\$ 1,700	\$ (1,686)

The FY 2011 Special Exhibitions Budget Request is included as part of the FY 2011 Art Care Request on pages 3-6 to 3-12.

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM FUNDING SOURCES
FY 1988 - 2011
(\$000's)**

	Funding			Percent of Funding	
	Federal	Nonfederal	Total	Federal	Nonfederal
1988 Actual	1,597	4,313	5,910	27	73
1989 Actual	3,241	5,877	9,118	36	64
1990 Actual	2,412	6,114	8,526	28	72
1991 Actual	2,929	4,957	7,886	37	63
1992 Actual	5,671	6,030	11,701	48	52
1993 Actual	1,953	3,552	5,505	35	65
1994 Actual	2,692	1,997	4,689	57	43
1995 Actual	2,946	3,318	6,264	47	53
1996 Actual	3,176	3,963	7,139	44	56
1997 Actual	3,439	3,649	7,088	49	51
1998 Actual	3,748	3,225	6,973	54	46
1999 Actual	3,041	5,917	8,958	34	66
2000 Actual	3,319	3,172	6,491	51	49
2001 Actual	2,816	4,259	7,075	40	60
2002 Actual	3,208	4,055	7,263	44	56
2003 Actual	3,174	4,104	7,278	44	56
2004 Actual	3,041	3,495	6,536	47	53
2005 Actual	2,982	3,207	6,747	44	48
2006 Actual	3,122	4,363	7,485	42	58
2007 Actual	2,912	2,531	5,443	53	47
2008 Actual	3,415	4,390	7,805	44	56
2009 Actual	3,380	3,176	6,556	52	48
2010 Estimate	3,386	1,954 *	5,340	63	37 *
2011 Estimate	1,700	5,273 *	6,973	24	76 *

* Amount and percentage of nonfederal funding in FY 2010 and FY 2011 are dependent upon the amount of funds the Gallery is able to raise from the private sector.

Description	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2011 Increase/ (Decrease) FY 2010
Special Exhibitions Program	\$ 3,386	\$ 1,700	\$ (1,686)

The Special Exhibitions Program brings master works of art from public and private collections around the world to Washington. As an integral part of the Gallery's educational role on a national and international level, this is the Gallery's most popular program with its visitors. In addition to rising costs in all areas of exhibition planning and organization, weakness in the nation's economy has made it increasingly difficult to secure private sector support. Federal support, which has always been essential to ensuring the Gallery's leadership in organizing and presenting special exhibitions of distinction for the American public, is vital.